and adjoining side, shows where a considerable piece, weighing perhaps two pounds, was broken off, antecedent to its burial, probably at the time it fell. Two of the projections on one side are flattened, as if by pounding, but closer examination shows fine striæ running evenly across both surfaces, which are in the same plain and partly join each other, suggesting that the meteorite in falling may have glanced on a rock, making a slickensided surface. The meteorite also shows two marks made by a sharp tool, like an ax, which also apparently antedate its last burial in the sand. But the most marked feature about this iron is the presence, on the surface, in a number of places, of bright unaltered triolites with a part of a crystal face showing in one place. This feature, in connection with the general freshness of the iron and the presence of what seems to be the original surface over a good part of it, indicates that it is a comparatively recent fall.

Williamstown Meteorite.—I secured this siderite last March from Mr. A. E. Ashcraft, who found it April 25, 1892, on his farm in Grant County, Ky., three miles north of Williamstown. It is a nearly square, thin, flat-shaped iron about $16 \times 12 \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick in the center, thinning to a blunt edge at either end. It was entire when it reached me, with the exception of a few ounces broken from one edge, and weighed 68 pounds (30.85 kilo.) and has a specific gravity of 8.1. It has already been cut into a number of sections, which etch very readily, showing the structure to be that of a Mediam octohedrite. Three distinct systems of Kamacite lands are cut at approximately right angles, while a third is cut at an angle of 60° or 70°, thus showing an apparent breadth of about three times that of the other lands. Triolite seems to be pretty generally distributed throughout the mass in very small grains, although two nodules about one half inch in diameter were revealed, but the total amount of this mineral is small, as might have been inferred from the general smoothness of the surface, and the specific gravity.

A fuller description of both of these meteorites will be given when the analysis, which will be made at the National Museum, is completed.

Edwin E. Howell

Washington, D. C.,
September 17, 1907

Dr. Armsby's New Unit for Energy

In a paper read before the Society for the Promotion of Agricultural Science[1] Dr. Armsby suggests a new unit for energy. This unit is a million gram-calories and he calls it a *Therm*—spelled with a capital *T*. Since the word *therm* has been suggested and occasionally used to mean the gram-calorie, and since we are accustomed to use the prefixes *kilo* and *mega* to denote, respectively, a thousand and a million—as in kilometer, kilogram, kilowatt, megadyne, megohm—would it not conform better to our customary nomenclature to call the kilogram-calorie a *kilocalorie* and a thousand kilogram-calories a *megacalorie?* These names have the advantage that they would at once be understood by a man who had never seen them before, whereas the name *Therm* would for a time need explanation.

A. T. Jones

Purdue University

Special Articles

Some Life-History Notes on Megarhinus Septentrionalis[2] D. and K.

Some observations upon the life history of this rather rare and beautiful species of mosquito were made at this station[3] during the past season.

On September 10, 1906, the senior author collected 24 larvæ of this species and several of a smaller species, probably *Culex pipiens,* from a half-barrel tub of rain water, not more than 100 feet from an inhabited dwelling, on a farm near Church Hill, Tenn. All were placed in a small pail together and carried overland twenty-three miles in a buggy and then forty on the train to this laboratory,

[1] Science, Vol. XXVI., p. 670.

[2] Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, Vol. 48, Part 3, No. 1657.

[3] Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station, Knoxville.